

# Sustainable Investing with abrdn

Invest today, change tomorrow

May 2023



# abrdn Sustainable Investing

At abrdn, environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations have been an integral part of our decision-making process for over 30 years.

By harnessing the power of investment, we're dedicated to creating more opportunity for our clients - and more positive impact for the world around us.

Our embedded expertise, proprietary research and tools, as well as an active ownership approach adds value to our clients.

# Global and embedded expertise

#### for comprehensive analysis

Our global Sustainability Group partners with experts embedded within asset class and business functions, to offer truly comprehensive investment-critical insight.

members of our Investments Vector Sustainability Group

dedicated ESG analysts across investment desks

investment professionals trained on sustainable investing and proprietary tools

Source: abrdn, May 2023.



### **Proprietary** research and tools

#### for enhanced investment insight

Our proprietary in-house research and tools complement a combination of external data sources. This allows us to undertake well-rounded and independent analysis, as well as more rigorous reporting, on top of industry benchmarks. This means that we offer unique insight to our clients.

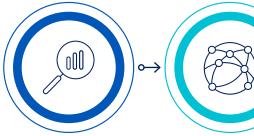
#### Proprietary tools, including:

- Climate Scenario Analysis Tool
- · Carbon Footprinting Tool
- ESG House Score
- Engagement Tool

# Active ownership

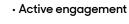
#### For enhanced outcomes and value

We actively engage with companies throughout the investment lifecycle, as well as undertaking proxy voting and advocacy activities. We believe this drives better investment returns, protecting and enhancing value for our clients.









Advocacy

· Proxy Voting



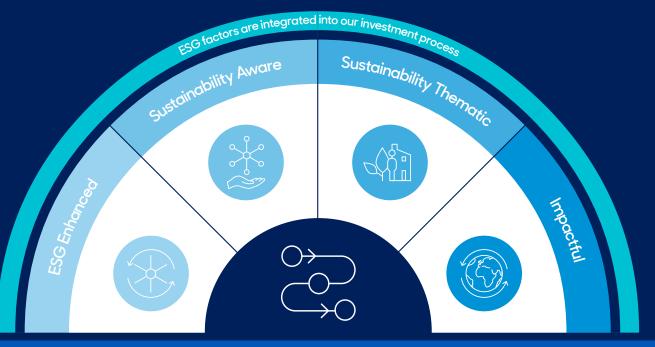
Protecting and enhancing longterm value



# abrdn Sustainability+ Product Framework

abrdn portfolio solutions incorporating sustainability factors which may include specific sustainable objectives.

The abrdn Sustainability+ Product Framework is abrdn's own methodology for our range of solutions within this framework only. It serves as a basis for defining targets and metrics to measure our investment solution against sustainability progress in various defined areas. Our framework may relate to regulatory requirements like SFDR but is not purposefully designed to match any one current or future taxonomy system. Instead, it is dynamic and we will regularly review and amend it as required to comply with a range of applicable regulatory requirements.





#### **ESG Enhanced**

For investors focused on enhancing ESG integration with portfolio level sustainability targets and negative filters.

Portfolio solutions that include negative exclusions and may include ESG and carbon targets.



#### Sustainability Thematic

For investors interested in specific sustainable themes.

Portfolio solutions with a clear objective to target specific sustainability-related thematic opportunities such as climate change, biodiversity and water.



#### Sustainability Aware

Portfolio solutions that proactively manage and target alignment of environmental or social characteristics through specific sustainability targets, negative exclusions and carbon commitments.

Additional measures may include positive screens, and an aim to allocate to sustainable companies/activities.



#### **Impactful**

For investors targeting specific and measurable sustainable objectives.

Portfolio solutions that target a defined sustainable objective, for example a material alignment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, or to deliver intentional, measurable, positive social or environmental impacts.

## **Our Solutions**

To help our clients achieve their long-term investment aims.

We have developed a number of sustainable investing solutions for our clients' different sustainability preferences, financial ambitions and tolerance to risk.

Region   ESG		Article 8		Article 9	
ESG enhanced   Sustainability Aware   Sustainability Thematic   Impactful	SFDR				
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 $<sup>^1</sup>$ Note: The above mentioned solutions are provided to illustrate our range of capabilities only and may not be available in all jurisdictions .

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#### Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)

Introduced by the European Commission (EC) and effective in March 2021, SFDR compels financial market participants and advisers to provide more sustainability related information. The goal is to ensure investors have the information they need to make investment decisions in line with their sustainability goals. It also seeks to avoid the 'greenwashing' of financial products and advice.

Greenwashing is when a company misleads investors about its environmental credentials. Companies must categorise any financial product sold in the EU as Article 6, 8 or 9 (there's no 7).

The abrdn Sustainability+ Product range is aligned with SFDR.

#### Article 8

We manage a wide range of products that are classified as Article 8 under SFDR. Their objective is to promote social and/or environmental characteristics (and follow good governance practices). These funds can follow a range of different approaches to achieve this aim. However, most of our options utilise a combination of 'best-in-class' active selection, as well as exclusions to avoid industries and companies at odds with the funds' objectives. These include our Sustainability+ product range, and several other investment solutions. Details of available funds can be found on our local websites.

As well as our wide range of Article 8 and 9 funds, we provide sustainable solutions in local and regional structures, tailored to the sustainable requirements of those markets.

#### Article 9

We believe it is possible for our clients to seek a financial return while addressing the world's major challenges. These include climate change, inequality and unsustainable production and consumption. That's why we have developed a number of strategies that are classified Article 9 under the European Union's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR).

An Article 9 fund is defined as "a fund that has sustainable investment as its objective or a reduction in carbon emissions as its objective." Further, Article 9 funds must:

- incorporate good governance into the investment strategy (i.e. assess employee relations, board structure, remuneration and more)
- assess the portfolio against the principle of "do no significant harm".



#### Important Information

Investment involves risk. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may get back less than the amount invested.

The investments referred to may not be authorised for distribution in all jurisdictions in which abrdn operates. For further information, please speak to your usual contact at abrdn or visit our website abrn.com. Investors should read the relevant offering documents and consult with their own advisors before investing.

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(entities as at 6 May 2022)

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#### Want to discuss more?

Contact your local abrdn representative



#### Sustainability Inspires Podcast

Get inspired, get involved





For more information visit our Sustainability site at abrdn.com

SG-071122-183360-3

